[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: DATA INTERFACE
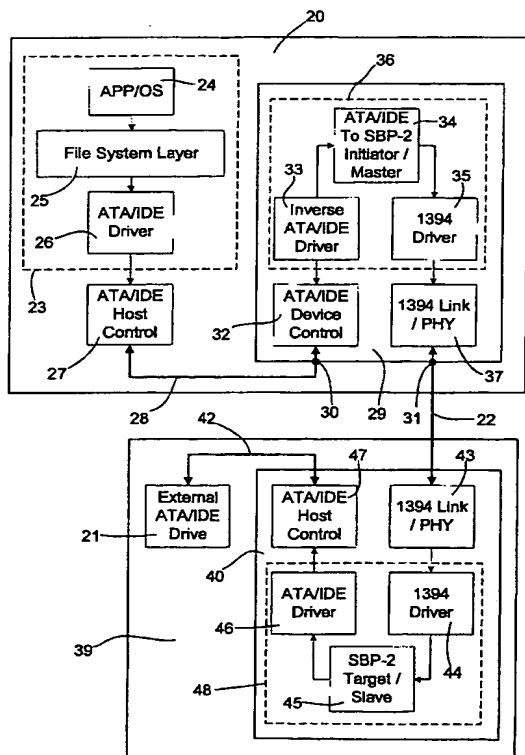
(57) Abstract: In order to provide a host apparatus (20), such
as a digital television receiver, with the capability of transmitting
commands to an external storage medium device (21) connected
to the host apparatus (20) over an external databus (22), the host
apparatus (20) is provided with: a command bus (28) and a com-
mand interface (26, 27) arranged in accordance with one of the
ATA/IDE standard or the Serial ATA standard for transmitting
commands to a storage medium device over the storage medium
command bus (28); and an integrated circuit chip (29) connected
to the command bus (28); and to the external databus (22) and
having an interface arranged to convert commands received from
the command bus (28) in a format in accordance with said one of
the ATA/IDE standard or the Serial ATA standard into a format
for the external databus (22) and to transmit the converted com-
mands over the eternal databus (22). The external databus (22)
may be arranged in accordance with the IEEE 1394 standard or
the Universal Serial Bus standard. The storage medium device
standard may be an Advanced Technology Attachment standard.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— *with international search report*

— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.